

March 28, 2003

## **FACT SHEET**

### **DIRECT FINAL RULE AND ACCOMPANYING PROPOSAL AMENDING THE STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR STATIONARY GAS TURBINES**

#### **TODAY'S ACTION**

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a direct final rule amending several sections of the rule known as new source performance standards for stationary gas turbines.
- ! Today's amendments enhance the existing rule by codifying emissions testing and monitoring procedures routinely approved by EPA.
- ! Today's action reduces the paperwork requirements for facilities covered by this requirement and for regulatory agencies responsible for approving alternative approaches for complying with the standards on a case-by-case basis.
- ! In addition, this amendment will harmonize provisions of the standards of performance for stationary gas turbines with the continuous emission monitoring provisions of the Acid Rain Program. Many existing and new turbines are subject to both regulations.
- ! EPA will take public comment on today's proposal for 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- ! Under the Clean Air Act EPA is required to set new source performance standards. These standards are uniform national air emission standards that limit the amount of air pollution allowed from new sources or modified existing sources.
- ! Since the original promulgation of new source performance standards for stationary gas turbines in 1979, technological advances have lead to improvements in:
  - nitrogen oxide emissions control devices,
  - emissions monitoring devices,
  - emissions test methods, and the
  - composition of fuels used for gas turbines.
- ! These improvements have lead to many requests for case-by-case approvals of alternative testing and monitoring procedures. Today's action codifies the alternatives that have been routinely approved.

### **BENEFITS AND COSTS**

- ! EPA expects these amendments to have negligible cost impacts on the gas turbine industry.
- ! The revisions will eliminate duplicate monitoring requirements under different parts of the Clean Air Act. EPA estimates that the total cost savings will be approximately \$3 million over the next five years.
- ! Most revisions in this rule are presented as optional and therefore do not create a new burden for facilities.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- ! To download the proposed standards and direct final rule from EPA's web site, go to "Recent Actions" at the following address: *<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>*.
- ! The above website has information on when and how to comment on the proposal and direct final rule.
- ! For further information about the rule, contact Mr. Jaime Pagán at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at 919-541-5340.